

02-277

From: Joseph Vito
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 8:45 PM
Subject: FCC - DO THE RIGHT THING FOR AMERICA !

Dear Mr. Adelstein,
I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

The proposed changes would result in the following:

- * independent voices in cities across the United States could be snuffed out by huge media corporations
- * Whole communities and even whole states and regions could be dominated by one media company which could decide which viewpoints to allow on the air and which to censor
- * The big media conglomerates have in the past used their power to keep opposing viewpoints off the air ... these changes would give them far greater power to keep opposing views off the air and out of the newspaper

Bottom Line ... many of the corporations that are fighting for these rule changes - including media giants Viacom/CBS and Disney/ABC - are precisely the same companies that have tried in the past to keep MY VIEWPOINTS OFF THE AIR

THIS IS NOT WHAT AMERICA WANTS !

Joseph R. Vito
609-433-6251 cell
609-259-1643 home

From: naborsdw
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 8:46 PM
Subject: Concentration of ownership of the media

It is my belief that any FCC action that has as short or long term results the concentration of media ownership to fewer and fewer corporations is counter to the public interest. That fewer and larger companies own and control larger percentages of media outlets threatens what already appears to be a fragile United States democratic system. Is the "freedom" we bring to the Iraqis a condition of life that we are willing to allow to slip from us so that massive, soulless corporations can accumulate ever more wealth? I hope not, but it seems to me that the last bulwark of freedom of information in this country is the FCC. Please do not abandon us to the corporations who will, if they are not countered by government, exploit us all to the limit of their capability and to the detriment of the deepest values of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

From: Anne Adams Helms
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:12 PM
Subject: Media Ownership Rules

The public interest will best be served by preserving media ownership rules in question in this proceeding. By allowing our media outlets to merge print and broadcast facilities a greater restriction on the breadth of news and information available to citizens to act in the public interest will result.

To promote competition, diversity and local content, the FCC should retain the current media ownership rules and impose stricter public interest requirements.

The studies commissioned by the FCC are flawed and incomplete.

In addition, I strongly encourage the Commission to hold hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public which will be the most directly affected by the outcomes of these decisions.

Thank you,

Anne Helms
25350 Camino de Chamisal
Corral de Tierra, CA 93908

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein,
john_mccain@mccain.senate.gov

From: Kass911@aol.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:16 PM
Subject: deregulation

Dear Sir:

I am very concerned that a vote will be taken before the American people are aware of the far-reaching implications of allowing one person to control the print and television media in any given area. As a former college teacher, I encouraged my students to see how one story was covered by several newspapers or several television stations so that they could see how facts could be manipulated to favor one point of view or another. It seems to me the ability to do this is crucial in a democratic society. It is impossible to have an adequate grasp of issues when one only has access to one point of view, and I fear that monopoly ownership of the media in an area will result in only one point of view being available on crucial political and social issues. Please delay the vote on this crucial issue and fund community discussions, so that Americans will understand how this change may impact their lives and affect their access to information.

Sincerely,
Carol Kasser

From: Ed Oltarzewski
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:22 PM
Subject: Do not relax broadcast ownership rules.

Dear Sir,

Diversity of opinion is necessary for a healthy society. It is therefore essential that it be maintained in the newsrooms of the American media.

I urge you to resist any attempt to relax the broadcast ownership rules which prevent media monopolies.

Respectfully,

Edward Oltarzewski
4 Moro Dr.
Mercerville NJ

From: BentonF225@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:26 PM
Subject: broadcast ownership rules

To the Honorable Michael K. Powell, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission

Official petition: "I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies. The proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record of attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air. The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in the USA."

In this case, I believe maintaining limits on broadcast ownership is the only responsible course of action because on that maintains the political and social benefits to the citizens which the freedom of the press was and is intended to bring about. Monopoly growth, on the other hand, by greatly attenuating what is allowed on the media, undermines the basic process of learning the facts involved in issues fully and fairly, which is fundamental to a responsible electorate and good government in general-it is essential to our political system's correct functioning. I think if the FCC sets the wheels in motion to extinguish the light of independent voices, the ascendancy of huge media monoliths which replaces independence will deal in gross censorship and blatant propaganda, as opposed to really reporting the facts. It will be like Iraqi state television and the USSR's Pravda were. Economics is not the highest value of national interest here in this matter and it is clear to me that the need is to preserve the benefits of a open system by preventing a vast consolidation of control over our nation's media. What's the difference government taking over control of the mass media and a private company doing the same thing? I see no difference in terms of the grave danger and massive potential for evil which it represents, as an unchecked, totalitarian thing controlling information. Have we forgotten...what control of information was used for and did to Japan, Italy, Russia and Germany? How dare anyone presume that we are too good for propaganda and tyranny to appear can flirt and fool around with same dangerous form of centralized, ego-directed information control without fear of loss of our freedoms? We break up monopolies that threaten the monetary economy and this is a case of equal merit in terms of preventing monopolies from threatening the political economy. We have just seen a number of allies show their true colors. The question, it seems to me, is about long-term trust and sound design of our society to remain free and I do not trust that more monopoly in the media is prudent in that regard.

Sincerely,
Mr. Frederick G. Benton, III
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

From: iluvmyhk@juno.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:27 PM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Michael Williams
Millington, Tennessee 38053-4968

From: Albert Descoteaux
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:30 PM
Subject: "broadcast ownership rules"

Dear Mr. Adelstein,

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Albert J. Descoteaux
Dracut, MA 01826-4424
albertdescoteaux@earthlink.net

From: Sarah Duffy
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:33 PM
Subject: Media Ownership

I am watching Commissioner Michael Copps on NOW with Bill Moyers. I believe you should delay the vote on this issue and hold hearings around the country so that people can be heard on this issue. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Q. Duffy
22 Courthouse Square #503
Rockville, MD 20850

From: Allan & Jef Jones
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:38 PM
Subject: Concentration of media ownership

Chairman Powell:

Please do what you can to stop additional concentration of media ownership! It's bad enough already.

Allan Jones

From: bEN gUTHRIE
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:38 PM
Subject: Pending decisions

Chairman Powell, Our country deserves nothing less than a full review of the pending changes on ownership of media outlets. I urge you to delay proposals until full disclosure and review of the implications are offered to the public.

Sincerely J. Ben Guthrie, Interlaken, NY 607-387-5070

From: Allan & Jef Jones
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:44 PM
Subject: Media ownership

Commissioner Adelstein:

Please do what you can to stop additional concentration of media ownership! It's bad enough already.

Allan Jones

From: Blain Logan
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:45 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Blain Logan (blain.logan@ohiou.edu) writes:

The more voices the better. Please don't consolidate ownership. Our country was founded with the dream that everyone would get to speak and be able to do that with the same weight to that voice not to be drowned out by those with money.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 132.235.74.22
Remote IP address: 132.235.74.22

From: David Oppenheim
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:45 PM
Subject: Media deregulation

Dear Mr. Powell,

I am writing to voice my opinion on the issue of media deregulation. I believe that the American media is being increasingly dominated by a small group of corporations, and that this contributes to a lack of diverse voices in the media. As such, I think that the remaining regulations which prevent individual media companies from owning too many media outlets are extremely important. I urge you not to allow any more such regulations to be repealed. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

David Oppenheim

Help STOP SPAM with the new MSN 8 and get 2 months FREE*
<http://join.msn.com/?page=features/junkmail>

CC: Michael Copps

From: Martha Halla
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:51 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Martha Halla (Mmsg8ful@aol.com) writes:

Dear Mr. Adelstein,
PLEASE do not vote in favor of the media concentration act. I believe that diversity is paramount to a healthy democracy. Thank you so much, Martha Halla

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 64.12.96.139
Remote IP address: 64.12.96.139

From: Timothy F. DuBois
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:53 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Timothy F. DuBois (dubois95@sbcglobal.net) writes:

Dear Commissioner Adelstein,

As a retired military person with total time of 28 years, I understand what it means to have only one view of any given subject presented to me for evaluation. In such environments, it is extremely difficult to make an informed decision that effects the outcome of people's lives for years to come.

Your decision to consolidate the mass media into the hands of a few people, the information presented to the citizens of this country will become more warped than it is already. The airwaves are full of a Hollywood view of what America should be and borders on the pornographic where anything is acceptable.

If you decide to concentrate the available media in this country you will end up with a mindless entertainment, news, and journalistic style that will be barren and tasteless.

Please DO NOT decide to give this power to the few and keep as much diversity as possible.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely
T. DuBois

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 67.66.220.211
Remote IP address: 67.66.220.211

From: E Anderson
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:59 PM
Subject: Proposed deregulation of media ownership

Dear Chairman Powell,

As a citizen and therefore one who nominally holds an "ownership" share in our public airways, I employ, indeed beg you to not vote for these proposed new criteria that will lessen the constraints on multiple-media ownership, particularly in any one given market. I remember the real choices one had in the "heady" days of the 60's and 70's in terms of accessing not just a variety but a diversity of views in print and non-print media. I specifically use the terms "variety" and "diversity" to let you know that there is a vast difference between them. I have heard you say there is a great "variety" available for consumers through the media and therefore these proposals are non-threatening. I strongly disagree. One more "Friends" clone (i.e. variety) will drive me to the madhouse. The lack of in-depth coverage of hard news is appalling...and a true threat to our democracy. Uninformed citizens are citizens who cannot make real decisions about their government or indeed their own livesthis proposal will only increase the level of non-information offered to the citizens of this great nation. The golden idol should not be placed above the ideals of truth and justice in our society. Too often the desires of the wealthy (therefore powerful) are placed above the needs of the citizens (the true wealth of any nation). Wealth is "heady"; Power is "heady"...please keep your head concerning this matter. As our nation is proud of your father, please make us be proud of you.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Anderson
(One of the "silent majority")

From: Tom Nordlund
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 9:59 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Tom Nordlund (uab744@bellsouth.net) writes:

I'll be brief and clear.

No more media consolidation.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: 216.76.201.110
Remote IP address: 216.76.201.110

From: Jeannette Wilson
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:00 PM
Subject: Media outlet rules

I strongly object to the idea that one company can monopolize what I read, hear, see or interact with. I oppose the loosening of rules on limits on media outlets. Sure, they go back to the 1930's. The Constitution predates that. They both work well.

Jeannette Wilson
P.O. Box 2016
Tahlequah, OK 74465

From: Edward S. Savela
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:01 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Edward S. Savela (esavela@savela.com) writes:

On June 2, the FCC plans to vote on whether to "relax" the rules for owning American news media despite unprecedented public opposition to additional deregulation. If the Commission decides to allow further media concentration, the resulting stampede of mergers would give a shrinking handful of large corporations much greater influence over what is reported--or ignored--in the news. The general public's ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints would be compromised. A healthy democracy is best served by a diverse marketplace of ideas. We are counting on you to use your influence to preserve current media ownership rules for the sake of the public interest which you are responsible to protect--and for the sake of diversity of opinion, free competition, and the preservation of democracy.

Sincerely,
Edward S. Savela

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 66.168.239.192
Remote IP address: 66.168.239.192

From: Enid Rothenberg
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:03 PM
Subject: media ownership

I have only recently become informed about the pending vote that the FCC will be taking on June 2nd to rescind regulations which interfere with the media being owned by a very few hugely wealthy individuals and/or corporations. I want you to know that this issue has not been fully discussed or explained to the general public. It seems to me that part of your mandate is to protect us from just what you now seem to be doing - concentrating the power for us to KNOW what really goes on. Another part of your mandate is to be sure that the utilization of the airwaves is always in the best interest of American citizens.

We can only be a responsible and responsive democracy when we are presented with all the facts. It is somewhat ironic that now when information is so speedily available that what we are served is subject to the economic interests of giant business entities. I hope that you will consider also that while you, personally, may feel now that the people buying up the media are acceptable to you and may even reflect your positions, you might not be ready to further deregulate if a person or group whose ideas you did not like were the ones buying up what is a gift to them in many ways....access to all American homes via TV, Radio and Films.

An example which is very pertinent right now is our ability, even in wartime, to hear the version of the news presented by Al Jazeera. While it may not convince us it keeps our own sources "honest" knowing that we can hear another point of view.

Please do the job to which you were appointed. Bring this subject out in the open for full debate and then I hope you will see the necessity for regulation of ownership of the media.. Enid W. Rothenberg, South Egremont MA 01258

From: Greg Bynum
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:12 PM
Subject: Do what's right for America! Don't loosen media ownership limits!

Dear FCC Commissioners,

I urge you not to do immense damage to our noble American democratic ideals by permitting even further consolidations of corporate control over the media. If anything, there should be more limitations on corporate control in this area, not less. "Anti-trust" must be our motto at this moment in our history.

Thank you for your attention. Best wishes.

Sincerely,
Greg Bynum
U.S. Citizen, Student
New York City

Do you Yahoo!?
The New Yahoo! Search - Faster. Easier. Bingo.
<http://search.yahoo.com>

From: STEVEAD
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, pmcopp@fcc.gov, KM KJMW, Commissioner
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:12 PM
Subject: Media Ownership

Dear Commissioners, please do not allow the media companies to own more stations or information services. Competition is shrinking every day. We have lost one of my favorite local programs here because Clearchannel had two competing stations in our area. Soon there will be no diversity. It's gone way too far already.

From: susan ford
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:19 PM
Subject: June 2 Vote

Mr. Powell,

I would like to state my disagreement with the plan to eliminate the ban on media cross ownership. I believe this would be a serious mistake and could have major impacts on our democratic system. On June 2, I urge you to vote against easing ownership regulations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Susan R. Ford

From: BILLY D.BROWN
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, May 2, 2003 10:19 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

BILLY D.BROWN (bdb8144@hotmail.com) writes:

Dear sir,I am writing in response to the upcoming vote on expanding media ownership rights.I am opposed to this bill and offended that the FCC is keeping this issue from the American public.I think the chairman should be fired for keeping this issue hidden.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 65.144.96.215
Remote IP address: 65.144.96.215